Orders conceiued and agreed to be published, by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the Citie of London, and the Iuſtices of Peace of the Counties of Middleſex and Surrey, by direction from the Lords of his Maieſties moſt Honourable priuie Covncell.

LONDON

WHereas in the firſt yeare of his Maieſties moſt happy raigne ouer this Realme of England, an Acte was made, for the charitable reliefe, and ordering of perſons Infected with the Plague: Whereby Authority is giuen to Iuſtices of Peace, Mayors, Bayliffes, and other head Officers, to appoint within their ſeuerall Limittes Examiners, Searchers, Watchmen, Keepers, and Buriers for the perſons and places infected, and to miniſter vnto them Oathes for performance of their Offices. And the ſame Statute alſo authorizeth the giuing of other Directions, as vnto them for the preſent neceſſity, ſhall ſeeme good in their diſcretions. It is therefore vpon ſpeciall conſideration thought very expedient, for the preuenting and auoyding of the infection of Sickenes (if it ſhall pleaſe Almightie God) Which is now dangerouſly diſperſed into many places within the Citie and Suburbs of the ſame: that theſe Officers following be appointed, and theſe Orders hereafter preſcribed be duly obſerued.

Examiners be appointed in euery Pariſh.

FIrſt it is thought requiſite and ſo ordered, that in euery Pariſh there be one, two or more perſons of good ſorte and credite, choſen and appointed by the Alderman his Deputy, and Common Councell of euery Ward, and by the Iuſtices of Peace in the Counties, by the name of Examiners, to continue in that Office the ſpace of two moneths at leaſt: and if any fit perſons, ſo appointed as aforeſaid, ſhall refuſe to vndertake the ſame, the ſaid parties ſo refuſing, to be committed to Priſon vntill they ſhall conforme themſelues accordingly.

The Examiners Office.

THat theſe Examiners be ſworne by the Alderman, or by one of the Iuſtices of the Countie, to enquire and learne from time to time What houſes in euery Pariſh be viſited, and what perſons be ſicke, and of what diſeaſes, as neere as they can informe themſelues and vpon doubt in that caſe, to command reſtraint of acceſſe, vntill it appeare what the diſeaſe ſhall proue: and if they find any perſons ſicke of the infection, to giue order to the Conſtable, that the houſe be ſhut vp: and if the Conſtable ſhall be found remiſſe or negligent, to giue preſent notice thereof to the Alderman, or the Iuſtice of Peace reſpectiuely.

Watchmen.

THat to euery infected houſe there be appointed two Watchmen, one for the day and the other for the night: and that theſe Watchmen haue a ſpeciall care that no perſon goe in or out of ſuch infected houſes, Whereof they haue the charge, vpon paine of ſeuere puniſhment. And the ſaid Watchmen to doe ſuch further Offices as the ſicke houſe ſhall neede and require: and if the Watchman be ſent vpon any buſines, to locke vp the houſe and take the Key with him: and the Watchman by day to attend vntill tenne of the clocke at night: and the Watchman by night till ſixe in the morning.

company the Coarſe to Church, or to enter the houſe Viſited, vpon paine of hauing his houſe ſhut vp or be impriſoned.

No infected ſtuffe to bee vttered.

That no Clothes, Stuffe, Bedding or Garments be ſuffered to be carried or conuayed out of any infected houſes, and that the Cryers and carriers abroad of Bedding or olde Apparell, to be Solde or Pawned, be vtterly prohibited and reſtrained: and no Brokers of Bedding, or olde Apparell bee permitted to make any outward Show, or hang forth on their Stalles, Shop-boards or windowes, towards any Streete, Lane, common way or Paſſage, any olde Bedding or Apparell to be ſolde, vpon paine of Impriſonment: and if any Broker or other perſon ſhall buy any Bedding, Apparell or other Stuffe out of any infected houſe, within two moneths after the infection hath beene there, his houſe ſhall be ſhut vp as infected, and ſo ſhall continue ſhut vp twenty daies at the leaſt.

If any perſon viſited doe fortune, by negligent looking vnto, or by any other meanes, to come or be conuayed from a place infected, to any other place, the Pariſh from whence ſuch partie hath come, or beene conuated, vpon notice thereof giuen, ſhall at their charge cauſe the ſaide party ſo viſited and eſcaped, to be carried and brought backe againe by night, and the parties in this caſe offending, to bee puniſhed at the direction of the Alderman of the Warde, and the Juſtices of the Peace reſpectiuely: and the houſe of the receiuer of ſuch viſited perſon, to be ſhutte vp for twenty daies.

Euery viſited houſe to be marked.

That euery houſe viſited be marked with a red Croſſe of a foote long, in the middle of the Dooze, euident to be ſeene, and with theſe vſuall printed wordes: that is to ſay, Lord haue mercy vpon vs to be ſet cloſe ouer the ſame Croſſe, there to continue vntill lawfull opening of the ſame houſe.

Euery viſited houſe to bee watched.

That the Conſtables ſee euery houſe ſhut vp, and to bee attended with Watchmen, which may keepe them in, and miniſter neceſſaries vnto them at their owne charges (if they be able) or at the common charge if they be vnable: the ſhutting vp to be for the ſpace of foure weekes after all be whole.

That preciſe order be taken that the Searchers, Chirurgions, Keepers and Buriers are not to paſſe the Streetes without holding a redde Rodde or wand of three foote in length, in their hands, open and euident to bee ſeene, and are not to goe into any other houſe then into their owne, or into that whereunto they are directed or ſent for, but to forbeare and abſtaine from company, eſpecially when they haue beene lately vſed in any ſuch buſines or attendance.

And to this end it is ordered, that a Weekely Taxe be made in euery Pariſh viſited, if in the Citie or Borough then vnder the hand of the Alderman of the Warde, where the place is viſited: if neither of the Counties, then vnder the hands of ſome of the Juſtices next to the place viſited, who, if there be cauſe, may extend the Taxe into other Pariſhes alſo, and may giue warrant of diſtreſſe againſt them which ſhall refuſe to pay: and for want of diſtreſſe or for aſſiſtance, to commit the offenders to Priſon, according to the Statute in that behalfe.

Orders for clenſing and keeping ſweete of the Stteetes.

The ſtreets to bee kept cleane.

Firſt it is thought very neceſſary and ſo ordered, that euery houſe-holder doe cauſe the Streete to be daily Pared before his Dooze, and ſo to keepe it cleane Swept all the weeke long.

That the Rakers take it from out the houſes.

That the Sweeping and Filth of houſes to be daily carried away by the Rakers, and that the Raker ſhall giue notice of his comming by the blowing of a Horne, as heretofore hath beene done.

Laieſtals to be made farre off from the Citie.

That the Laieſtals be remoued as farre as may be out of the Citie, and common Paſſages, and that no Night-man or other be ſuffered to emptie a Vault into any Garden, neere about the Citie.

Care to be had of vnwholsome Fish or Flesh, and of musty Corne.

That especiall care be taken, that no stinking Fish or vnwholsome Flesh, or mustie Corne or other corrupt fruits, of what sort soeuer be suffered to bee solde about the Citie or any part of the same.

That the Bruers and Tipling houses be looked vnto, for musty and vnwholsome Caske.

That order be taken that no Hogges, Dogges or Cattes, or tame Pigeons, or Conies be suffred to be kept within any parte of the Citie, or any Swine to be or stray in the Streets or Lanes, but that such Swine be Impounded by the Beadle, or any other Officer, and the owner punished according to the Acte of common Councell, and that the Dogges be killed by the Dog-killers, appointed for that purpose.

Orders concerning loose Persons and idle Assemblies.

Beggers.

FOr asmuch as nothing is more complained on then the multitude of Roagues and wandering Beggers, that swarme in euery place about the Citie, being a great cause of the spreading of the infection, and will not be auoyded, notwithstanding any order that hath beene giuen to the Contrary: It is therefore now ordered, that such Constables and others, whome this matter may any way concerne, doe take speciall care, that no wandring Begger be suffered in the Streetes of this Citie, in any fashion or manner whatsoeuer, vpon paine of the penaltie prouided by the law, to be duly and seuerely executed vpon them.

Plaies.

That all Plaies, Bearebaitings, Games, Singing of Ballads, Buckler-play, or such like causes of Assemblies of people, be vtterly prohibited, and the parties offending, seuerely punished, by any Alderman or Iustice of the Peace.

Tipling houses.

That disorderly tippling in Tauernes, Alehouses and Sellers, be seuerely looked vnto, as the common sinne of this time, and greatest occasion of dispersing the Plague: and where any shall be found to offend, the penalty of the Statute to bee laide vpon them with all seueritie.

And for the better execution of these orders, as also for such other directions as shal be needfull, It is agreed that the Iustices of the Citie and the Counties adioyning doe meete together once in tenne dayes, eyther at the Sessions house without Newgate, or some other conuenient place, to conferre of things as shall be needfull in this behalfe.

And euery person neglecting the duety required, or willingly offending against any Article or clause, contained in these Orders, he to be seuerely punished by imprisonment, or otherwise, as by law he ought.

God saue the King.

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